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planes that we were told were on their way to France, the senator launched into a consideration of the censor's newspaper record prior to receiving his high governmental commission. Quoting from Creel's own articles, he found no difficulty in convincing the serious-minded members of the Senate that it was not so long ago that the official under fire was a rampant reformer whose chief delight was to ridicule the Constitution and the sovereign instruments of government. It was such an indictment that would compel the average man to hide his face in shame.

Characterizing Creel as a "sniveling sneerer," the senator from Indiana concluded his denunciation with the observation that "this is the man through whose mental processes must be filtered the intellectual and moral pabulum of the people of the Republic in a day of peril and in an hour of storm." One doubts if ever a man was more roughly handled in Congress than was the Censor in Chief on that day, and as we observed above, it was forunate for him that Congress does not have the hiring and firing of the officials who are censoring our war news. That such a man as he happens to have full control of the bureau of public information is not a comforting thought to the American people, nor can we see where he can be any comfort to the Administration from now on. If we can read the signs of the times aright, there is an almost universal demand for his summary removal from office.

BY WAY OF ELUCIDATION.

ENERAL MARCH, Chief of Staff, expresses himself essentially after the manner of the true soldier. He is not given to extravagant utterances; he is brief and blunt in speech. Hence his recent remark, in commenting on the crisis that had arisen, that "we must strip for action," occasioned no little speculation as to just what he really intended to say through the medium of that stereotyped expression. There were those who professed to see a guarded criticism of the conduct of the war to date, while others are certain that he was merely concerning himself with the business of the moment without regards for the mistakes that may have been committed in the past. Meanwhile the general persists in maintaining discreet silence.

In the absence of his assurance to the contrary, however, we are inclined to endorse the view outlined by the New York Sun. Says this contemporary in commenting on General March's observation: "He is right. We must strip from the facts of the situation the camouflage of misstatement, unfounded assurance and baseless confidence that has been sedulously applied to them by persons more desirous of immediate applause for themselves than concern over the ultimate welfare of the country. * * * We must rid our minds of the notion that the pen with which the President signed the declaration of war against Germany was a magic wand that transformed notoriously inefficient job-holders, whose only claim to place was their political slickness, into highly traited, superbly equipped specialists, capable of attacking successfully is ricate problems of industry, transportation and strategy without further schooling or preparation."

This to our way of thinking is the most concise and complete survey of the situation yet put in print. It states the case in a nut shell and does everything but mention names. Of course even the most casual reader could supply these without stopping to think twice. Is it not possible that what General March really had in mind was that, if we would really strip the decks for action, we must throw a lot of the dead wood overboard?

If shipping space were not at such a premium it would seem desirable to send some of our German spies to France for trial.-Philadelphia North American.

The Russian bureau in New York says that Russia is sound at the core. The trouble is that Germany seems to have got the core. Rochester Post-Express.

Austria may split with the Germans, but it is certain that Germany will not split fifty-fifty with the Austrians when it comes to the spoils of war.-Louisville Post.



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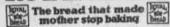
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